World Bank loan for NHAI projects

1128. SHRI ISHWAR SINGH:
SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has refused to provide loans to National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) for some of the projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether in view of poor implementation of the road projects by NHAI, there is steep cost escalation in the projects; and

(d) if so, the manner in which NHAI is going to complete the projects even if the World Bank does not provide any loan, etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (d) National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) gets the projects implemented by contractors in accordance with the contracts with them. Any escalation in cost is paid as per terms and conditions of the contract. In case the project is delayed on account of poor implementation due to fault on the part of the contractor, liquidated damage is imposed and no escalation is paid. While actual increase in cost can only be assessed on completion of these projects, the National Highways Development Project Financing Plan includes following sources of financing:—

(i) Revenue from Cess

(ii) External aid from multilateral Financial Institutions

(iii) Surplus from toll revenues

(iv) Additional budgetary support

(v) Market borrowings

Rescue of hijacked Indian ships and crew

1129. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of ships hijacked by Somalian pirates in the Gulf of Aden and in other ocean regions in the last two years with Indians on board;

(b) whether Indians on board the ships in each of the case were rescued;

(c) the number of days it took for rescue operations and number of Indian seafarers involved in each case;

(d) the role played by Indian Navy in each of these cases; and

(e) the rescue policy adopted by Government in view of increasing cases of hijackings?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) The following hijackings involving ships with Indian crew have taken place. The dates of hijacking and release have been mentioned against each cash along with number of Indians on board:—

	Name of Vessel	Flag	Hijacked/Released	No. of Indian Nationals
a.	M.V. Victoria	Jordan	17.05.08/23.05.08	10
b.	M.V. Iran Deyanat	Iran	22.08.8/10.10.08	3
c.	M.T. Stolt Valor	Hong Kong	15.09.08/16.11.08	18
d.	M.V. Delight	Hong Kong	18.11.08/09.01.09	7
e.	M.V. Biscaglia	Liberia	28.11.08/21.01.09	25
f.	F.V. Victoria-4	Kenya	3 Indian nationals taken hostage on 07.01.09	
g.	M.T. Sea Princess-II Panama		2/3.01.2009	8

No Indian registered ship has been hijacked so far by Somalian pirates in the Gulf of Aden, though there has been several attempts, which were thwarted by the vessel itself, Indian naval patrol vessel or patrol vessels for the Coalition forces.

Except for the 3 Indian nationals taken hostage from the fishing vessel "VICTORIA-4" and 8 Indian nationals on M.T. "SEA PRINCESS-II, as mentioned above, all other ships/Indian nationals listed above have been released. There is no reported death of Indian nationals in captivity of the pirates.

(d) The Indian Navy had no direct role in the rescue of the above ships.

(e) The Government has approved deployment of Indian Naval warship with helicopters and marine commandos in the Gulf of Aden to patrol the normal route followed by Indian Flag ships during passage between Salalah (Oman) and Aden (Yemen). The presence of Indian Navy in the area will help to protect Indian sea borne trade and instill confidence in Indian sea faring community as well as work as a deterrent for pirates.

Funds for road construction in Madhya Pradesh

†1130. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.